



Supporting tourism and enhancing visitor experience

Tourism, Airport and Information Technology Services

Essential support for the tourism industry will be delivered in Bundaberg Regional Council's 2024–25 budget with funds for Bundaberg Tourism and attraction enhancement on the program.

This financial year the Hinkler Hall of Aviation will be given a boost through the State Government's Building Bush Tourism Funding Program, which assists in the improvement of local lifestyles while also driving visitation.

Council Tourism, Airport and Information Technology Services portfolio spokesperson Cr Steve Cooper said \$199,920 had been secured to upgrade the facility.

"This project involves upgrading multiple exhibits within the Hinkler Hall of Aviation, including the Globe Theatre, Mon Repos Diorama, Glide like Bert and the Strip Map Interactive exhibits," he said.

"The aim is to ensure the facility is providing innovative, stimulating and educational experiences for all visitors into the future."

Cr Cooper said assets like the Hinkler Hall of Aviation were important, not only to the community, but also to the local tourism sector.

"Opened in 2008, the Hinkler Hall of Aviation is more than just a museum.

"It's an educational hub and a source of inspiration.

Budget 2024–25



"The hall features a remarkable collection of Hinkler's personal artifacts, meticulously restored aircraft, and interactive displays that bring his story to life.

"Schools regularly organise excursions to the hall, where students engage with interactive exhibits and learn about the science of flight and the history of aviation.

"Hinkler Hall is a major feature of our tourism strategy as it draws thousands of visitors each year, who not only learn about Bert Hinkler but also enjoy all that Bundaberg has to offer."

With a growing reputation throughout Australia and world as a desirable and unique visitor destination Bundaberg Regional Council has also continued its funding support for Bundaberg Tourism.

Cr Cooper said, aligned with the Southern Great Barrier Reef brand, Bundaberg Tourism would continue to raise the profile of the Bundaberg Region and ensure the positive impacts of the booming tourism industry continued to flow.

"This is an extremely valuable partnership for our community with tourism contributing \$683 million total visitor spend to the Bundaberg Region economy in 2023," Cr Cooper said.

"Bundaberg Tourism works alongside industry and Council to attract visitors, increase overnight stays, and highlight the unique experiences available in the Bundaberg Region through a range of marketing strategies.

"Council has enjoyed a positive partnership with the Bundaberg Tourism team for many years and this collaboration ultimately contributes to a vibrant and sustainable tourism industry in the region."